

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
September 29, 2003**

PRESENT: DOUGLAS R. COOK, Co CHAIRMAN; BRIAN MCDONALD, SELECTMAN; LEON G. METHOT, SELECTMAN; LAURA PETRAIN, SELECTMAN.

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR: ROBERT CHRISTENSEN
RECORDING SECRETARY: KELLY BUMPUS

GUEST: Scott S. Wilkinson, Matt Pelletier, Louis Nikias, Gene Propper, Patti Smith, Joe Cox, Kate Benway, Bob Vaughan, Jim Blouin, John Nakias, Chuck Metcalf, Ginger Esenwine, Forrest Esenwine.

The Selectmen's Meeting was held at the Town Office Building. Selectman Cook commenced the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Selectman Cook asked that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. D.E.S. REPRESENTATIVE – MILFOIL PRESENTATION

Ms. Amy Smagula from the Department of Environmental Services met with the Board of Selectmen regarding milfoil. Ms. Smagula gave a presentation on milfoil in New Hampshire and surrounding areas. Ms. Smagula thanked the Selectmen for their concern regarding this issue. Ms. Smagula stated that as far as they know, there is no milfoil in any body of water in Town. Ms. Smagula stated that the best lines of defense are prevention and early detection. Selectman McDonald asked if hand harvesting gets rid of milfoil? Ms. Smagula stated that this usually works if it is small amount and detected early. Selectman Methot asked the prime infestation time? Ms. Smagula stated that optimal plant growing time is early June through the end of September. Selectman Cook asked if milfoil takes place where boats are going in and out? Ms. Smagula stated that usually the new infestations are at public entrance sites. Selectman Cook asked what other lakes are doing as far as keeping public access open? Ms. Smagula stated that the State can not close sites from public access. She stated that some areas are putting up chains, but not locking them as a deterrent for the public to stop and read the information regarding milfoil. Selectman Cook requested a video tape on milfoil to show on public access. Selectman Cook asked for public questions. Mr. Scott Wilkinson asked if Weare is the first Town to close public access on a boat launch? Ms. Smagula responded, yes this is the first Town to deny access for

purposes of milfoil. A question was asked if the brackishness of the lake discourages milfoil growth? Ms. Smagula responded no, the Ph of a water body will affect plant growth. Mr. John Nikias asked if there have been incidents where milfoil has been in a boat engine and not been seen, and then be blown back out? Mr. Smagula stated that usually it will be pieces a couple of inches long that spread the milfoil. Selectman Cook thanked Ms. Smagula for the information.

2. PERSONNEL POLICY CORRECTIONS

The Board discussed the issue in the personnel policy regarding employees notifying the Town of outside activities. There was a discussion on changing the wording. Selectman Cook stated that he is in favor of leaving it the way it is. Selectman McDonald also stated he is in favor of leaving it the way it is.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Gene Propper – Mr. Propper stated that he requested a friend, Ms. Patty Cash speak to the Selectmen regarding the effects of milfoil. Mr. Propper explained that Ms. Cash lives on a lake infested with milfoil. Ms. Cash stated that milfoil affects your wallet, your time, and enjoyment of the lake. She stated that there has been a restricted use area set up with a net and that recreation boaters and fishers cannot go in there. She also stated that the restricted use net needs to be cleaned off once a week. She stated that she is in a volunteer group, and that any time they are out on the lake they are looking for milfoil. Ms. Cash stated that property evaluations is another concern.

Scott Wilkinson – Mr. Wilkinson stated that they need to take a more reasonable approach than to block off access. He stated that he knows a lot of people who have raised concerns about milfoil, but there are also a strong number of people that live on the lake that want to limit the lake for their own private use. He stated that he feels ripped off because he is limited to when he can take his boat in or out. He stated that in doing some research on the internet it appears this should be put up for a Town vote. Mr. Wilkinson stated that another impact is that there will no longer be stocked fish in the lake. Selectman McDonald stated that there are phone numbers available to call and inspect the boats. Selectman McDonald stated that they are just trying to ensure someone inspects the boats before they enter the lake.

Bob Vaughan – Mr. Vaughan stated that he disagrees with the last speaker, and that he has totally misrepresented the motivation in what they have tried to do thus far. He stated that Mr. Wilkinson's comments are totally inaccurate.

Gene Propper – Mr. Propper stated that the Lake Owner's Corporation did not vote to have access restricted. He stated that they wanted to shed light on the milfoil situation to the Board of Selectmen. He stated that at their last meeting the consensus was that the land owner's will support the Town in preventing milfoil.

Selectman Cook stated that the Board has recognized the problem and they took action, hastily or not. He stated that none of the comments made have convinced him to reverse the decision. Selectman McDonald stated that it was brought to their attention and the Board acted. Selectman Cook suggested that all parties involved get together to work on this issue, and in the meantime, unless someone is going to present a solution to the problem the discussion is over for the evening. Mr. Chuck Metcalf invited the public to the next Parks and Recreation meeting on October 14th. Selectman Cook concluded by stating he believes the Board has made every indication that they are going to do anything in its power not to have boats stuck on the lake at the end of the season.

4. BOARD DISCUSSION WITH MR. ED SANDBORN

Selectman Cook informed Mr. Sandborn that he has been in front of the Board on a few occasions and the Board has some concerns with his requests. Selectman Cook stated that the Board has been lax in the past on these requests being incidental. Selectman Cook stated that at the last meeting he asked Mr. Sandborn if the work would go below road level, and Mr. Sandborn had stated it would not. Mr. Sandborn stated that he has done exactly what he requested to do and showed the Board some pictures of the property. Selectman McDonald stated that his concern is with the depth of the hole. Selectman Methot stated that Mr. Sandborn is in violation of the residential ordinance because of all the trucks and equipment on the property. Selectman Cook stated that he would like to see the berm removed as requested by Mr. Carl Knapp, and encourages Mr. Sandborn to rezone the property. Selectman Petrain stated that she has no problem with what Mr. Knapp wants to be done, but has a problem with the activity on the property. Mr. Sandborn stated that he will remove some of the equipment from the property. Selectman Petrain requested that Mr. Sandborn get together with Mr. Everett Stone to see what is allowed and what is not.

5. VOTE ON HALLOWEEN

Selectman Cook stated that he believes Halloween should be observed on Halloween. He stated that the Police Chief prefers it to be on Halloween to match other communities. Selectman McDonald stated that there have been problems in the past because it was on a week night. Selectman Cook made a motion to set the date of Halloween on October 31st. Seconded by Selectman Methot. Selectman McDonald

stated he is in favor of observing Halloween on a Sunday afternoon. A vote was taken. Motion passed 3 in favor; 1 opposed (Selectman McDonald).

5. OLD BUSINESS

Manifests-

Selectman Cook authorized the Board of Selectmen to sign manifests and order the Treasurer to sign checks dated October 2, 2003. Accounts Payable – \$174,400.28, Gross Payrolls - \$25,759.72, for a total of - \$200,160.00. Seconded by Selectman McDonald. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Participation –

Selectman Petrain stated that she had asked last week about public participation, and the reason it is not at the beginning of the meeting. Selectman McDonald stated that this is just the way it has fell because of arrangements at beginning of the meeting.

Manager's Course –

Selectman Petrain stated that she is in support of the classes approved for Mr. Christensen, and is wondering if the money is a budgeting issue. She stated that the classes run over three years and asked if it will be in the budget? Selectman McDonald stated that it would.

Escrow Accounts –

Selectman Cook stated that the Board has a policy on escrow accounts from previous Town Council. Selectman Cook requested Mr. Christensen work with Ms. Naomi Bolton and Ms. Elayne Pierson with the various accounts and work on a policy.

Propane Contract –

Selectman Cook stated that the Board received a memo from Mr. Christensen regarding the propane tanks at the Safety Complex. He stated that to go above ground is probably not the way to go that there are issues with piping and additional cost, and also the Chief has concerns with safety.

Safety Complex –

Selectman Cook stated there has been conflicting dates regarding the finish date of the Safety Complex. Selectman Cook stated that it should be completed the first week in November.

Propane Contract –

Mr. Christensen gave the Board the propane contract. Selectman McDonald made a motion to authorize Selectman Cook to sign the propane contract. Seconded by Selectman Methot. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

CIP Accounts –

Selectman Cook discussed the CIP accounts. He stated that he suggests putting \$10,000.00 into the computer equipment fund, rather than the \$8,000.00 put in the previous year.

Parks and Recreation –

Selectman Cook spoke to Mr. Chuck Metcalf regarding signs for Bolton field and their revenue. Selectman Cook explained that Mr. Metcalf will need to estimate the revenue from the signs and add it to a line in his budget.

Lawn Care Contracts –

Mr. Christensen informed the Board that he has received the lawn care contracts from all parties involved. The Board reviewed the contracts. The Board instructed Mr. Matt Pelletier to move forward with the work that currently needs to be done. Selectman Cook instructed Mr. Christensen to have Town Council review the contracts.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Meeting with Zoning Board –

Selectman Methot requested that the joint meeting with the Zoning Board be scheduled for as early as possible so that he can attend. Selectman Methot stated that he will need to leave after this meeting due to medical reasons.

Facilities Use Form –

Selectman Cook stated that they have received a letter from Primex regarding special events liability. He stated that they suggest having a facilities use form. Selectman Cook requested Mr. Christensen work with them to make up this form.

Policy for Public Participation –

Selectman Cook stated there is a request for a change in policy for public participation. Selectman Cook asked the Board if they are interested in the suggested changes? The Board stated they would like to keep the policy as is.

State Surplus Vehicles –

Selectman Cook stated that the Board had instructed Mr. Everett Stone to look into State Surplus Vehicles, but when contacted regarding this, had stated that he has no money. Selectman Methot stated that this is not Mr. Stone's issue, and it is up to the Board to decide how to pay for the vehicle. Selectman Methot stated that Mr. Stone had not done what the Board had asked of him.

Code Enforcement Violations –

Selectman Cook stated that Mr. Stone had provided the Board with a list of junkyards in Town. Selectman Cook stated Mr. Stone was instructed to report to the Board any and all code enforcement violations. Selectman Cook requested Mr. Christensen relay this message to Mr. Stone.

7. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Selectman Methot moved that the Board of Selectmen enter into Nonpublic Session at 9:10 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Seconded by Selectman Cook. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Methot – yes; Selectman Petrain – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Cook – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

In Attendance: Selectman McDonald, Selectman Cook, Selectman Methot, Selectman Petrain, Mr. Robert Christensen, Ms. Kelly Bumpus.

Selectman Petrain moved to come out of Nonpublic Session at 9:30 p.m. Seconded by Selectman McDonald. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Methot – yes; Selectman Petrain – yes; Selectman McDonald – yes; Selectman Cook – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Methot made a motion to seal and restrict the minutes of the nonpublic session pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3 III. Seconded by Selectman Petrain. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Methot made a motion to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Cook. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

A True Record

Kelly Bumpus, Recording Secretary